



# 26/0004  
PATENT  
Ser. No. 09/066,168  
Atty. Docket No. 10089/4

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS : Mikio KATSUBE, *et al.*  
SERIAL NO. : 09/066,168  
FILED : April 24, 1998  
FOR : PERMSELECTIVE MEMBRANE MODULE  
GROUP ART UNIT : 1723  
EXAMINER : A. Fortuna  
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**AMENDMENT**

RECEIVED  
JUN 06 2002  
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S I R:

In response to the Office Action dated March 6, 2002, the Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments and response, and reconsideration of the above-identified application.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Fourth amendment) A permselective membrane module comprising i) two permselective membrane elements formed of hollow fibers arranged substantially in parallel and bundled together and ii) a container, the two elements being arranged in the container longitudinally of the hollow fibers,

wherein the respective elements comprise i) a feed tube disposed longitudinally of the hollow fibers and ii) a hollow fiber bundle covering the outer surface of the feed tube, the feed tube having a number of holes therein, and the hollow fibers having one end closed and the other end opened,

wherein the feed tubes of the two elements communicate with each other via a connecting tube to form a conduit having one end opened and the other end closed,

wherein the container comprises i) an inner wall surrounding the two elements with a